

Bob's columns were a mirror that sometimes reflected our shortcomings but also our shared values—our decency, integrity and compassion for one another.

Like his thousands of loyal readers, I am grateful for Bob Kerr's contribution to our Rhode Island community, and I wish him great luck and success in whatever is to come. For years, I have enjoyed, been informed by, been moved by, and learned from Bob's columns. They have helped make Rhode Island a better State and reminded us how good a State we are and can be. I hope he finds some way to keep doing them. He will have at least one reader.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:45 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 276. An act to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the American Falls Reservoir.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3522. An act to authorize health insurance issuers to continue to offer for sale current group health insurance coverage in satisfaction of the minimum essential health insurance coverage requirement, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5057. An act to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to permit exemptions for external power supplies from certain efficiency standards, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5161. An act to promote the non-exclusive use of electronic labeling for devices licensed by the Federal Communications Commission.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 4:35 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 120. Joint resolution approving the location of a memorial to commemorate the more than 5,000 slaves and free Black persons who fought for independence in the American Revolution.

The enrolled joint resolution was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

At 6:11 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 1086. An act to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 5057. An act to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to permit exemptions for external power supplies from certain efficiency standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 5161. An act to promote the non-exclusive use of electronic labeling for devices licensed by the Federal Communications Commission; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-6935. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "OMB Sequestration Update Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2015"; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC-6936. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bovine Tuberculosis Status of Michigan; Advance Counties From Modified Accredited Advanced to Accredited-Free" (Docket No. APHIS-2014-0058) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6937. A communication from the Acting Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Importation of Litchi and Longan Fruit From Vietnam Into the Continental United States" ((RIN0579-AD51) (Docket No. APHIS-2010-0116)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6938. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Margin Protection Program for Dairy and Dairy Product

Donation Program" ((RIN0560-AI23) (7 CFR Part 1430)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6939. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Saflufenacil; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9912-91) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6940. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Flazasulfuron; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9915-32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6941. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sulfuric Acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9914-18) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6942. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Trifloxystrobin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9915-46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6943. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Kasugamycin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9911-57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6944. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, the quarterly exception Selected Acquisition Reports (SARs) as of June 30, 2014 (DCN OSS 2014-1244); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6945. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, the fiscal year 2013 Report to Congress on Department of Defense Operation and Financial Support for Military Museums; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6946. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Peter M. Vangjel, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6947. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Financial Management), Department of the Air Force, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 8, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6948. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Principal Deputy